

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The present invention provides a device for spreading apart a body cavity during diagnostic or surgical procedures that includes pivotally connected cross arms having forward end portions with plurality of blades and rearward end portions with hand grips. The connection between the cross arms permits pivotal movement between the cross arms and permits a ~~predetermined longitudinal relative~~ lateral shifting of said cross arms, wherein said plurality of blades are adapted to spread apart the body cavity during diagnostic or surgical procedures.